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Darcell Walker 8107 Carvel Lane Houston, TX 77036				
			EXAMINER	
			PILLAI, NAMITHA	
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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.



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BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES

Application Number: 10/062,346  
Filing Date: January 31, 2002  
Appellant(s): BENNETT ET AL.

**MAILED**

**JAN 24 2008**

**Technology Center 2100**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darcell Walker  
For Appellant

**EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 5/9/07 appealing from the Office action  
mailed 10/31/05.

**(1) Real Party in Interest**

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

**(2) Related Appeals and Interferences**

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

**(3) Status of Claims**

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

**(4) Status of Amendments After Final**

The appellant's statement of the status of amendments after final rejection contained in the brief is correct.

**(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter**

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

**(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

**(7) Claims Appendix**

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

**(8) Evidence Relied Upon**

6,842,185 B1

MAVROMMATI

1-2005

**(9) Grounds of Rejection**

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being clearly anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6, 842, 185 B1 (Mavrommati et al.), herein referred to as Mavrommati.

Referring to claims 1 and 12, Mavrommati discloses a method for navigating through a repository of graphical displays and maintain knowledge of the location of any display currently being viewed (column 4, lines 26-38). Mavrommati discloses displaying a main folder of directories in the repository from which a user can select one of the directories to navigate through to review graphical displays (column 1, lines 10-15). Mavrommati discloses displaying the complete hierarchical information for a selected directory from the main folder of directories, hierarchical information includes the categories of graphical display sets for a selected entry in the directory (column 1, lines 45-48). Mavrommati discloses displaying a viewing screen of the graphical display sets for a selected graphical display set, the viewing screen containing a row of buttons corresponding to the number of display sets in the selected category (column 1, lines 45-48) and a second row of buttons corresponding to the number of displays in a

selected display set (column 4, lines 20-25) and displaying a graphical display corresponding to one of buttons selected from the row of buttons corresponding to the number of displays in a selected display set (column 4, lines 26-29).

Referring to claim 2, Mavrommati discloses displaying a set of entries for a selected directory from the main folder of directories, determining whether the selected entry is a sub-directory, when the selected entry is a sub-directory, displaying entries from the current sub-directory, determining whether a selected entry in the current sub-directory is a sub-directory, when the selected entry in the current sub-directory is a sub-directory, displaying entries from the current sub-directory and repeating steps (d) and (e) until a selected entry in a sub-directory is not a sub-directory (column 4, lines 45-50).

Referring to claims 3 and 14, Mavrommati discloses initially displaying a thumbnail view of a selected graphical display prior to displaying a full view of the selected graphical display (column 2, lines 2-6).

Referring to claims 4 and 15, Mavrommati discloses displaying a full screen version of a selected graphical display following the initial thumbnail view of a selected graphical display (column 2, lines 6-11).

Referring to claims 5 and 16, Mavrommati discloses that for each directory that is a sub-directory the step of displaying the set of entries in that sub-directory when a cursor moves over that entry (column 3, lines 34-37).

Referring to claims 6 and 17, Mavrommati discloses displaying a set of categories of graphical display groups, each group containing sets of graphical displays (column 4, lines 28-32).

Referring to claims 7 and 18, Mavrommati discloses displaying entries for a selected directory or sub-directory further comprises reading pointer information located in the selected directory and returning objects of the pointer (column 3, lines 33-42).

Referring to claims 8 and 19, Mavrommati discloses that entries from a directory or sub-directory are displayed when a curser moves over a directory or sub-directory (column 3, lines 32-45).

Referring to claims 9 and 20, Mavrommati discloses that a set of entries for an entry selected from a directory or subdirectory is displayed when the selected entry is a directory, sub-directory or display category set (column 4, lines 50-59).

Referring to claims 10 and 21, Mavrommati discloses displaying the complete hierarchical information for a selected directory from the main folder of directories further comprises simultaneously displaying each selected directory and sub-directory as a window on the same display screen (column 4, lines 15-60).

Referring to claims 11 and 22, Mavrommati discloses highlighting each selected entry in each selected directory or sub-directory (column 3, lines 32-37).

Referring to claim 13, Mavrommati discloses displaying a set of entries for a selected directory from the main folder of directories, determining whether the selected entry is a sub-directory, when the selected entry is a sub-directory, displaying entries from the current sub-directory, determining whether a selected entry in the current sub-

directory is a sub-directory, when the selected entry in the current sub-directory is a sub-directory, displaying entries from the current sub-directory and moving from one sub-directory to another sub-directory until a selected entry in a sub-directory is not another sub-directory (column 4, lines 45-50).

Referring to claim 23, Mavrommati discloses a system for navigating through a repository of graphical displays and maintains knowledge of the location of any display currently being viewed (column 4, lines 26-38). Mavrommati discloses a local computer, a display repository housed in a containing graphical display (column 4, lines 60-67). Mavrommati discloses displays being arranged into sets of displays and stored in the repository in a directory hierarchical tree configuration containing a series of sub-directories that link to the location of a display in the repository (column 1, lines 45-55 and column 5, lines 4-7). Mavrommati discloses a computer network for establishing communication between the local computer and the display repository (column 5, lines 12-15). Mavrommati discloses a navigator program for maneuvering through the directories and sub-directories of graphical displays and control buttons on a screen of a local computer to provide selecting a specific graphical display from a set of displays in a display group (column 3, lines 46-65).

Referring to claim 24, Mavrommati discloses that the display repository resides in a server machine on the computing network (column 5, lines 12-15).

#### **(10) Response to Argument**

Applicant has described components of the invention. The components include displaying a complete path traveled through a series of directories and sub-directories

to the viewer such that the viewer will know what item was selected at each decision point of the navigation activity. The arguments also describe the invention to include displaying a grid format with a list of groups in one direction and the specific displays within that group are listed in another direction with the second direction being perpendicular to the direction of the list of groups of display. Although these components may be associated with the present invention, they are not clearly claimed in the claims of the present invention.

Applicant has argued that Mavrommati does not disclose that the entire hierarchy is simultaneously displayed to the viewer. Mavrommati discloses displaying the hierarchy associated with the icons where the hierarchical levels associated with the structure are shown based on the selection of the icon at the main level. The arguments presented are directed to display of a complete hierarchical path which is displayed but the claims recite displaying elements associated with distinct levels of a hierarchy. The claims do not clearly recite displaying a complete hierarchical path of selections from the main directory to the lowest subdirectory. Furthermore, Figure 2 of Mavrommati displays a path of selections made where the first selection is highlighted and a path is created to associate the selection to the display elements that are generated in a second level in response to the selection. This conveys a path based on the selections made by the user. In a structure where there are only two levels of hierarchy, this would be a complete hierarchical path with main directory and selection from this main directory leading to displaying elements down to the lowest subdirectory. Mavrommati discloses the displaying of the first set of icons and the second sequence



of icons, wherein them representing the directory and subdirectory and displaying them both simultaneously for display to the user, wherein Mavrommati further teaches that the selected items that are further displayed can represent images, or a further sequence of items that are displayed, wherein teaching the simultaneous display of a directories that are displayed (column 4, lines 25-50).

Applicant has argued that Mavrommati does not disclose simultaneously displaying three levels simultaneously as claimed in claims 10 and 12. Mavrommati has clearly disclosed that the Figure 2 with two levels of hierarchy can be replaced with a structure that has three levels of hierarchy (column 4, lines 20-25). Furthermore, this third additional level as described by Mavrommati would then be displayed in a third field. With the two first hierarchy levels displayed in the first and second fields, this additional third field would then be added to the Figure 2. With a first, second, and third field for the hierarchy levels, the three levels would be simultaneously displayed. If only two levels were simultaneously displayed at all times in Mavrommati, then the third additional hierarchy would have to be displayed in the first or second fields.

Applicant argues that as disclosed in claims 1 and 12, Mavrommati does not disclose displaying the complete hierarchical information for a selected directory from the main folder of directories. As shown in Figure 2 of Mavrommati, in response to selection of a directory the complete hierarchical information for the selected directory including the categories within the selected directory is displayed. Furthermore, in a two level hierarchy structure, the main folder director and the level with the selected directory data represent the complete hierarchical information for a selected directory.

The Figure 2 of Mavrommati displays multiple icons at each level of the hierarchical structure.

Applicant argues that Mavrommati does not disclose selection of an image. Mavrommati discloses that selection of the icons which represent images. Furthermore, Mavrommati clearly defines selection of images in response to selection of the items in hierarchy (column 4, lines 26-35).

Applicant argues that Mavrommati discloses navigation activity and not how the images are stored in the display repository. The display items of Figure 2 are clearly stored in the hierarchical structure to be able to be displayed and selectable. The icon images are stored in the display structure for the icon images that are stored to be displayed and viewable. Furthermore, Mavrommati has provided instructions which represent a program for maneuvering through hierarchy levels that represent directories and sub-directories of graphical displays. These graphical displays include icons which allow for access to images. Mavrommati clearly allows for selection of the icons or control buttons which enable the user to traverse through the hierarchy levels to make appropriate selections. The controls on the user's computer allow for the user to make selections as highlighted in Figure 2 of Mavrommati.

#### **(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix**

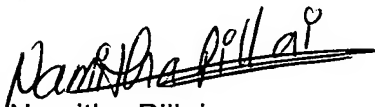
No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

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Art Unit: 2173

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For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,



Namitha Pillai  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2173  
January 18, 2008

Conferees:



Lynne H. Browne  
Appeal Practice Specialist, TQAS  
Technology Center 2100  
January 18, 2008

Stephen Hong  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Art Unit 2178  
January 18, 2008

  
STEPHEN HONG

SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER